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### **PSC TO HOLD HEARING MARCH 6 REGARDING CONTRACT TERMS BETWEEN TWO DOT WIND AND NORTHWESTERN ENERGY**

The state Public Service Commission will hold a hearing in Helena at 9 a.m., Thursday, March 6, concerning the request of Two Dot Wind that the PSC set various contract terms between Two Dot Wind projects and NorthWestern Energy. The hearing location is the PSC's Bollinger Room, 1701 Prospect Avenue.

Two Dot Wind's petition concerns contracts for the sale of electricity to NorthWestern Energy from four wind projects in the Martinsdale-Two Dot area. Federal and state laws require electric utilities like NorthWestern Energy to purchase electricity from certain small "qualifying facilities" or QFs. The Two Dot Wind projects are QFs. If a QF and a utility cannot mutually agree to a contract for the sale of the QF's electricity to the utility, then either the QF or the utility may seek PSC resolution of the disputed contract terms and conditions.

According to Two Dot Wind's petition, Two Dot Wind and NorthWestern Energy exchanged letters but were unable to agree on terms and conditions for new QF contracts for the Two Dot Wind projects. Two Dot Wind identified several areas of dispute in its contract negotiations with NorthWestern Energy, but indicated the major disputed issues concern the wind integration and insurance provisions.

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